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I hereby certify that this paper and every paper referred to therein as being enclosed is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to : Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 29, 2003 (Date of Deposit)

By: Judith Muzyk Date: May 29, 2003
Judith Muzyk

Docket No.: 378/9-1659

3673
#9
6/10/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kurt Elith THOMSEN

Serial No.: 10/089,365

Group Art Unit: 3673

Filing Date: March 25, 2002

Examiner: Jong-Suk Lee

For: VESSEL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

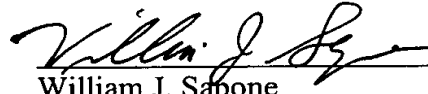
The applicant in the above-referenced matter wish to bring to the Examiner's attention the cited reference listed on the enclosed Form PT0-1449. A copy of each cited reference (4), is included.

The undersigned hereby certifies and states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, specifically a U.K. examination report dated May 1, 2003.

No representation is made as to the materiality of this information by this submission. Since submission of this document is after the first office action, and includes the statement required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1), no fee is included. If there is a fee required at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No.: 04-0838.

Noted
6/11/03

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Sapone", written over a horizontal line.

William J. Sapone

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